

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Paul Karunakar Nalla to our pulpit today! Rev. Nalla is 'an ordained minister from Hyderabad, India. He served as Pastor of First Baptist Church in Telangana for 3 years before moving to the United States for studies. He and his wife, Deepthi, are currently doing their Th. M. at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond.

March Guest Preachers:

March 5: "2nd Sunday in Lent": Rev. Paul Nalla

March 12: "3rd Sunday in Lent": Rev. Andy Meyers

March 19: "4th Sunday in Lent": Rev. Charles Philips

March 26: "5th Sunday in Lent": Rev. Marvin Daniel

Daylight Saving Time (*all clocks "spring forward"*) begins next Sunday at 2 a.m.

Circle – Meets Tuesday, March 14 at 1 p.m. (Location: TBA).

Lenten Sunday School Lessons will begin Sunday, March 12 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be using materials written by Max Lucado entitled, "He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart." These lessons invite you to examine the cross, contemplate its purpose and celebrate its significance. If you would like to order the Study Guide (Cost: \$4.00), please contact Patsy.

It's time to order Easter Lilies! We are accepting orders starting today through March 19. Order forms are in the Sunday bulletin and also on the Narthex table. Cost: \$14/plant includes delivery charge. Make check payable to "Gregory Memorial Church" and leave check with order form in collection plate!

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6300 Courthouse Rd. / P. O. Box 182, Prince George, VA 23875

www.gregorymemorial.org www.facebook.com/gmpcva

Telephone: 804.732.1081 - Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pastor: As announced

Secretary: Nancy Adams (office@gregorymemorial.org)

Organist: Sandra Perkins Pianist: Gail Rollings

Treasurer: Susan Shockley Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

Session Members

(Term = 3 yrs.; * indicates a partial term)

Lisa Brown (2023); Donald Hunter (2023); William Shill* (2023)

Rose Scott (2024); _____* (2024); Susan Shockley (2024)

Doug Holc (2025); David Johnson (2025); Patsy Johnson (2025)

Donald Hunter - Clerk of Session (2023)

Trustees

Gail Rollings (2023); Donald Hunter (2024); Ron Recher (2025)

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



Christians Who Love and Care.

"Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." *Revelations 22:12-13*

MARCH 5, 2023

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We welcome you to worship with us this morning, as we gather in community to draw closer to God. We pray that you will know the presence of the Lord, through our worship, and through the work of the Spirit. We invite you to take these moments before worship to calm your hearts and minds and open yourself to quiet stillness of God's presence!

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Larry Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Paul Nalla

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive; based on Psalm 121*]

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

One: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

All: Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN #307 “God of Grace and God of Glory”**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

Our God does not slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper and your shade at your right hand. Let us confess to our ever vigilant and ever faithful God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [*In unison; World Day of Prayer, Cmte. Of Taiwan*]

Gracious God, we are selfish and arrogant. We have overlooked human dignity; we ignore the needs of minorities, migrants and immigrants. We hear the cries of the land, women, children, and young people, but we have not done enough to respond to the grace that we have received. These actions have caused some people to suffer and experience oppression. Have mercy on us and forgive us.

[*Pause for a moment of silent confession*]

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Those affected by earthquakes and cholera in Turkey and Syria
First-responders, world-wide
Families, persons, entities impacted by weather-related disasters
Families, persons impacted by gun violence
People of Ukraine
Those in our community suffering from mental/physical illness,
loss, grief or hardship
Amy Townson, Josh Ingram’s sister
Becky Scott Smith
Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix’s grandson (health issues)
Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew’s brother
Verne & Clara Smith
Peggy & Dennis Allen (health issues)
Eddie Frankenstein
Grace Cibula
Etta Holc
Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)
Jennifer Caldwell, friend of Grace Cibula (health issue)
Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue)
Dana Etheridge, Wayne Powers' cousin (health issue)
Randy Warthan (health issue)
Traci Wells, Glenda Mayhew's friend (health issue)
Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)
Billy Hudson, friend of Dianna Lykins Flaherty, Mary Lykins' daughter
Renee' Renier, Diana Flaherty's long-time friend (health issue)
Emily Henry, Mary Holc’s sister (health issue)
Charlie Perkins (health issue)
Chris Ashby, Wayne Powers' granddaughter Brittney's husband
(health issues)
Ruth Figg (Petersburg Home for Ladies)
Billy Robertson (recent health issue)
Shirley MacNeill (recent health issue)
Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)
John Kephart, Grace Cibula’s nephew (heart surgery on 1/12)
Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (hospice care, Riverview on the Appomattox)
Tara Foster (recovering at home from surgery: kidney stones)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	MARCH 5	MARCH 12
S	2nd Sunday in Lent 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Paul Nalla <u>Order Easter Lilies</u>	3rd Sunday in Lent 2a Begin Daylight Saving Time (All clocks "Spring forward") 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Andy Meyers <u>Order Easter Lilies</u>
M	6	13
T	6p GSA Tr.5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm) 7p Congregational Care Cmte	1p Circle (Location: TBA) 14
W	8	15
T	6a Clean Church 9 7p Faith Cmte	6a Clean Church 16 2p News articles due 7p Finance Cmte
F	10	17
S	11	18

ATTENDANCE	e		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
February 5, 2023	25	10	8	2
February 12, 2023	13	92	4	2
February 19, 2023	24	10	10	2
February 26, 2023	26	11	7	

M=Members V=Visitors

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive]

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

One: May the God of mercy who forgives us our sins, strengthen you in all goodness..

All: **and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life. Amen.**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #581 "Glory Be to the Father"**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [Pastor]

As these words are read and proclaimed, may we be compelled in these next moments amidst all the imperfections and misunderstandings that may come to be yet compelled into your will, your way, and your wisdom. May your grace and truth abound in our hearing and our doing your Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL READINGS (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 12: 1-4a p. 8

New Testament Lesson: John 3: 1-17 p. 863-864

SERMON "Losses and Gains" Rev. Paul Nalla

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #451 "Open My Eyes That I May See"**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; Apostles' Creed]

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor]

All that we have and all that we are belongs to God. Every time we perceive our abundance and give out of it, we engage in an act of resistance against the forces of scarcity, cynicism, and hopelessness about the possibilities for the world around us. Let us resist, give, and participate in God's transformation of us and our world.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY HYMN #606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION [In unison]**

We return these gifts to you and relinquish our control over them, O God, that you may use them beyond us, beyond this place, and beyond self-interest that your love may abound in the flourishing of every living thing you have entrusted to us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Pastor, responsive]

One: Today we are called by Christians throughout the world on this World Day of Prayer into informed prayer and prayerful action: For those who we call and those who we treat as enemies. For those who we call friends and those whose lives we revere ... may we never take for granted the gift they are to our lives as a gift from you. We pray that we may be such a gift to the friendless and the lonely that we may give of that which we have experienced with such joy and delight for ourselves.

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: We pray for our world ... may we confirm the rights of every people and nation as having the same divine image and righteous potential as our own. For our ailing planet, that we may care for her as the beautiful and only home she is for all.

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: We pray for the Church ... may the body of Christ renew her strength and purpose. May we, as the body of Christ in this place, look not to prioritize filling empty seats so much as filling empty hearts. May we be reminded that only after your children no longer struggle for food, clothing, and shelter, can they turn toward nurturing a relationship with you and a love for the world. May we do our part to help people find their basic needs through community in all its forms. We pray these things in the name of our Savior, who calls to pray as us to pray as he prayed, *"Our Father..."*

***DEPARTING HYMN #462 "I Love to Tell the Story"**

***BLESSING**

One: We have been blessed!

All: We have met for divine worship, as God's people.

One: We have been blessed!

All: Our sins have truly been forgiven.

One: We have been blessed!

All: We go out into the world as the body of Christ, bearing the good news of the gospel. We are blessed, indeed. Amen!

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor; Book of Common Worship]**

Beloved people of God; I invite you, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by meditating on God's word.

May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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